

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 10 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 3 and 4 as follows:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A process for making a sealing device having a sealing lip ~~having~~ with a frustoconical air-side surface and a frustoconical oil-side surface and having a harder helical portion on said air-side surface, a hardness of said harder helical portion being harder than ~~the~~ a hardness of said sealing lip, said process comprising the steps of⁷:

preparing a ~~foreproduct of said~~ sealing device having a rigid annular casing, a molded elastomeric member bonded to said casing ~~in one body~~ and a sealing lip defined by a frustoconical air-side surface and a frustoconical oil-side surface;

radiating ~~an radiation ray on~~ interdispersed portions of said frustoconical air-side surface with a ray of radiation to form said harder helical portion by inducing cross-linking and avoiding decomposition of said frustoconical air-side surface; and

said frustoconical air-side surface being formed into concave shaped grooves and convex shaped ribs when the sealing

device is in use with relative rotative movement between the sealing lip and a shaft, said convex shaped ribs having said hardness of said harder helical portion and said concave shaped grooves, having the hardness of the sealing lip with each of said concave shaped grooves being located between adjacent ones of said convex shaped ribs, and said frustoconical air side surface being snugly fit against an outer periphery of the shaft when there is no relative rotative movement between the sealing lip and the shaft.

4. (Currently Amended) The process for making a sealing device according to Claim 3, further comprising ~~a process of~~ placing a mask on said frustoconical air-side surface before ~~radiation radiating~~, said mask having a helical slit through which ~~said an~~ electromagnetic wave of said radiation passes onto said frustoconical air-side surface to make said harder helical portion on said frustoconical air-side surface.

Claims 5-11 (Cancelled)